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potatoes, of crucifers, of mangels and beets, and, finally, of farm animals. In each case is discussed the symptoms, the cause and the preventive measures, for the most part with adequate completeness.

E. W. OLIVE

#### NEWS ITEMS

Dr. J. J. Taubenhaus, until recently associate plant pathologist of the Delaware Experiment Station, will deliver the John Lewis Russell lecture before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society on March 27, on "Diseases of Sweet Peas." He has recently been appointed head plant pathologist and physiologist at Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, College Station, Texas, where letters may be addressed after February 20.

At the meeting of the Society of American Bacteriologists held at the University of Illinois at the end of December, Dr. Thomas J. Burrill, formerly vice-president of the university, was elected president of the society for the coming year.

On December 15, 1915, Dr. C. Stuart Gager addressed the Rhode Island Horticultural Society, at Providence, on the effects of electricity and radium-rays on the growth of plants.

Work is now under way for the completion of the laboratory building and first range of plant houses at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. The completion of these buildings at this time was made possible by the donation, by three friends of the garden, of \$100,000 on the condition that a like sum be appropriated for the same purpose by the City of New York.

At the seventh annual meeting of the American Phytopathological Society, held at Columbus, Ohio, from December 28 to 31, the following officers were elected: *President*, Dr. Erwin F. Smith, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.; *Vice-president*, Dr. Mel. T. Cook, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N. J.; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Dr. C. L. Shear, Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C.; *Councilor*, Dr. F. D. Kern, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa. Dr. E. C. Stakman, Minnesota Agricultural College, Minneapolis,

Minn., was elected a member of council vice Dr. Mel. T. Cook. Dr. W. A. Orton was elected one of the chief editors of *Phytopathology*, and Professor H. T. Gussow, Dr. C. W. Edgerton, Dr. E. C. Stakman, and Dr. V. B. Stewart were elected associate editors.

Dr. Irving E. Melhus, formerly pathologist, office of cotton and truck diseases of the Bureau of Plant Industry, has assumed charge of the work in plant pathology in the Iowa State College.

Dr. H. S. Graves, the government forester, in his report to Secretary of Agriculture Houston, for 1915, says: "The nursery and plant station at Halsey, Nebraska, has been designated the Bessey Nursery in honor of the late Dr. C. E. Bessey, of the University of Nebraska, a leading American ecologist and for many years active in promoting reforestation in Nebraska."

Dr. and Mrs. N. L. Britton and Mr. Percy Wilson, of the New York Botanical Garden, sailed for Cuba on January 29. Most of their explorations will be in western Cuba and on the Isle of Pines.

The herbarium and other botanical collections of Dr. E. B. Southwick, comprising many thousands of specimens have been presented by him to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. The collection is rich in woods, and in seeds of hundreds of native American and foreign plants.

Professor H. H. Whetzel, of Cornell University, and Dr. E. W. Olive, of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, will sail for Porto Rico on February 19 to collect fungi and to study plant diseases.

The summer mountain laboratory of the University of Colorado will hold its eighth annual session at Tolland, Colorado, from June 26 to August 5, 1916. Courses are offered in botany and zoölogy; all are chiefly of an ecological nature. The botanical work will be in charge of Professor Francis Ramaley, who may be addressed at Boulder, Colorado, for additional information.

Miss Grace Emily Cooley (Ph.D., Zürich), who had been for several years a teacher of biology in the East Side High School of Newark, New Jersey, died in Newark on January 27, 1916.

Dr. Cooley was born in East Hartford, Connecticut, July 26, 1857. She was instructor in botany in Wellesley College from 1883 to 1896, and associate professor of botany in the same institution from 1896 to 1903. She had published several botanical papers, of which the principal are "Impressions of Alaska, with a list of plants collected in Alaska and Nanaimo, B. C., July and August, 1891" (1892); "On the reserve cellulose of the seeds of Liliaceae and of some related orders" (1895); "Ecological notes on the trees of the botanical garden at Naples" (1904); "Silvicultural features of *Larix americana*" (1904). Dr. Cooley was a woman of ability and personal charm, and her death will be mourned by a wide circle of friends.

Mr. Frank J. Smiley, assistant in botany at Harvard University, has been appointed instructor in botany and assistant curator in the Herbarium at the University of California.

"After consultation with leading firms of drug dealers and medical men, the Women's Herb-Growing Association, recently formed in England, has drawn up a list of the medicinal plants which it is both desirable and profitable for women to grow in their gardens and allotment plots. In the old days England used to grow most of its own drugs, but in recent years the industry has passed largely to Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Balkans. The new association intends to prove that the industry can be carried on just as well in England by women. Among the plants in urgent demand are monkshood, chamomile, deadly nightshade, thorn-apple, henbane, purple fox-glove, fennel, opium poppy, valerian." (*Evening Post*, 10 February.)